



# ACCOLADES



## Office of Governor Matt Mead

### BUSINESS CLIMATE:

#### **Most Business Friendly Tax Climate**

Source: Tax Foundation - 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

#### **Second Best State to Start a Business**

Source: GoBankingRates.com - 2017

#### **Third for New Business Startup Activity**

Source: Kauffman Foundation - 2017

#### **Third Lowest State-Local Tax Burden in the Country (FY2012)**

Source: Tax Foundation - 2015, 2016

#### **Fourth for Small Business Policy**

Source: Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council - 2017, 2018

#### **Eighth Best Economic Outlook**

Source: American Legislative Exchange Council - 2018

### STATE MANAGEMENT:

#### **AA+ Issuer Credit Rating**

Source: Standard and Poor's - 2017

#### **Second Highest Rate of Confidence in State Government - 76% (2015)**

Source: Gallup - 2016

#### **Fifth Best State Fiscal Condition (2015)**

Source: Mercatus Center - 2017

### QUALITY OF LIFE:

#### **Best Air Quality**

Source: United Health Foundation - 2017

#### **Fourth Lowest Poverty Rate for Children**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2016

### WORKFORCE:

#### **Fourth in Mountain Region Workforce Development**

Source: Site Selection Magazine - 2018

### INNOVATION:

#### **Best State for Rate of New Entrepreneurs**

Source: Kauffman Foundation - 2017

#### **Second for Proprietors as Percentage of Total Employment**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis - 2016

#### **Sixth in Number of New Businesses per 1,000 Employees**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2017

### ECONOMIC INDICATORS:

#### **3.8% Unemployment Rate**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - July 2018

#### **Seventh Highest State Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Employee**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis - 2016, 2017

#### **Eighth Per Capita Personal Income**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis - 2017

### EDUCATION:

#### **Best Education System Among Western States**

Source: Education Week - 2016, 2017, 2018

#### **Third Best State for Repaying Student Loans**

Source: Schools.com - 2016

#### **Seventh Best Education System Nationally**

Source: Education Week - 2017, 2018